

REMARKS

The Examiner has objected to claim 17 because it recites information stored in MiniPortal(s) and information stored in MicroPortal(s) as structural elements of the system. The information is not a structural element.

Applicant has amended the claims accordingly.

The Examiner has rejected claims 10 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

As per claim 10, the claim is confusing because the term "said system" lacks antecedent basis. The preamble of the claim recites: "A method for creating an integrated portal system, comprising:", while a first method step recites only "entering job characteristics of a user into a computer database". Said step alone cannot create "a portal system". Further, the second method step recites: "said system creating said integrated portal system based on said job characteristics of said user", which is confusing, because it indicates that an additional system has to be used for creating said integrated portal system.

Applicant has amended the claim accordingly.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 4-5, 7, 9-13 and 16 as being anticipated by Chipman et al. (US 6,292,894).

Amended Claim 1 of the present invention relates to an integrated portal system which comprises an industry portal and a second portal of a different industry. The system integrates the portals so that a user can simultaneously display information related to said portal and said second portal on a screen.

The prior art does not anticipate or make obvious this claim or the claims depending upon it. As stated in the prior art section of the patent application, there are portals on the Internet which relate to a single industry, such as paper, steel or chemicals. That is what is taught by Chipman. When Chipman discusses portals, it relates to several portals in the same industry. Chipman allows a user to view a single portal such as paper, leave that portal and then go to a second portal such as steel. As stated above, claim 1 of the present invention allows a user to view multiple portals simultaneously. There is no discussion in Chipman regarding integration of the portals for different industries.

The section of Column 4 cited by the Examiner illustrates that selected terms are used within a single portal, or in a single industry sector.

The section cited by the Examiner in Column 3, refers to the portal as being the local computer system have the categorized information on it.

The invention of Chipman relates to a computer-based information organizing, searching, retrieving, and exchanging platform from supplier's within a single industry. None of what is cited to by the section quoted above by the Examiner describe that Chipman teaches integrating portals of two different industries wherein a user can simultaneously display information related to said first portal and said second portal on a screen. The above describes providing a portal to act as a primary interface in a single industry.

Therefore amended claim 1 is not anticipated nor obvious over Chipman.

As per claim 2, said method and system, wherein said user can order part or services (column 12, lines 40-41).

Chipman states that a user can use its system to calculate prices and delivery time, it does not let a user perform a transaction as required by claim 2.

For this reason and the reasons stated above for claim 1, claim 2 is not anticipated or obvious over Chipman.

As per claims 4-5 and 9, said method and system, further comprising a search engine (column 6, line 63 – column 7, lines 14).

Regarding claim 4, for the reasons stated above for claim 1, claim 4 is not anticipated or obvious over Chipman.

Regarding claim 5, for the reasons stated above for claim 1, claim 5 is not anticipated or obvious over Chipman. Further Chipman only teaches performing a transaction within a single industry and not related industries.

Regarding claim 9, for the reasons stated above for claim 1, claim 9 is not anticipated or obvious over Chipman.

As per claim 7, said method and system, further comprising product specification information (column 9, lines 56-63).

Regarding claim 7, for the reasons stated above for claim 1, claim 7 is not anticipated nor obvious over Chipman.

As per claim 10, said method and system, wherein the integrated portal system is created based on entering job characteristics of a user (column 7, lines 37-56).

Amended requires that the job characteristics comprise job types, geographical location, education background, previous work experience and job experience.

This section relates to doing a search for brushless motors. This is not a job characteristic as defined in amended Claim 10. In response the search request, the search engine would scan through a stored index of terms for "brushless" and "motor" and retrieve all matching results.

Therefore, amended claim 10 is not anticipated or obvious over Chipman.

As per claim 11, said method and system, comprising an industrial database comprising a search engine; said database having product or service specifications, product reports product and a system for answering questions from a user (column 5, lines 59-62; column 6, line 63 – column 7, lines 14; column 10, lines 26-34).

Portal 102 stores some information which may answer some initial questions for user 103 and point to suppliers 104 and 105 for additional information.

Regarding claim 11, Chipman does not teach an industrial database which has a program that answers questions from a user. The database further does not provide independent product reports. The Examiner cites to a section which

states that the system provides information that may answer some initial questions from a user, not that the system answers questions from a user.

Therefore, claim 11 is not anticipated nor obvious over Chipman.

As per claim 12-13, said method and system, comprising a list of vendors and vendor product information (column 9, lines 36-65).

For the reasons stated above for claim 11, claims 12 and 13 are not anticipated nor obvious over Chipman.

As per claim 16, said method and system, wherein said database provides a price analysis mechanism (column 12, lines 37-38).

For the reasons stated above for claim 11, claim 16 is not anticipated nor obvious over Chipman.

The Examiner has rejected claims 3, 8, 14-15 and 17 as being obvious over Chipman et al.

As per claims 3, 8 and 17, Chipman et al. teach all the limitations of claims 3, 8 and 17, including a governing portal for each industry, and other portals in that industry, except specifically teaching that said portals include a mini portal and macro portal.

However, these differences are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited. The functions performed by said system would be the same regardless of the definition of other portals. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability.

Amended Claim 3 requires that the portals contain mini portals and micro portals that are defined in the specification. Mini portals are defined as vertical market portals. Micro portals are defined as specific niches within industries. Chipman does not teach or describe a breakdown of the portals whatsoever, so that each user seeing a portal sees all portions of the portal. The functions performed by the system for Mini Portals and Micro Portals are not the same regardless of the definition of other portals. Further, for the reasons stated above for claim 1, claim 3 is not obvious over Chipman.

Claim 8 requires that the search engine be able to search the mini and micro portals claimed in the present invention. For the reasons stated above, claim 8 is not obvious over Chipman.

Amended Claim 17 relates to a content management system that is broken up into mini and microportals as described in the specification of the present invention. Chipman does not teach or describe a breakdown of the portals whatsoever, so that each user seeing a portal sees all portions of the portal. Therefore, claim 17 is not obvious over Chipman.

As per claims 14 and 15, Chipman et al. teach all the limitations of claims 14 and 15, except teaching characteristic or usage templates. Chipman does teach that information in a database can be presented in a template form, said information specifying the supplied products and processes (column 10, lines 25-30).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Chipman et al. to include that said template is a characteristic or usage template, because it would advantageously simplify the processing of information.

Claim 14 requires that the database have a characteristic template. Chipman does not teach this feature or make it obvious. Further for the reasons stated above, claim 14 is not obvious over Chipman. Chipman does not teach this feature nor make it obvious.

Claim 15 requires that the database have a usage template. Chipman does not teach this feature nor make it obvious. Further for the reasons stated above, claim 15 is not obvious over Chipman.

As per claim 17, Chipman teaches said system including governing portal, sector portal, and other portals (col. 4 lines 10-17), except specifically teaching that said portals include following definitions" a mini portal and macro portal. However, these differences are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited. The functions performed by said system would be the same regardless of the definition of the recited portals. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art.

As stated above, amended Claim 17 is not anticipated nor obvious over Chipman.

The Examiner has rejected claim 6 as being obvious over Chipman et al. in view of Rangan (US 6,412,073).

As per claim 6, Chipman et al. teach said method and system, including ontology tracking component (column 11, lines 35-37).

Local portal 607 includes at least two distinct systems: a crawler 609 (similar to crawler 205 described above in Fig. 2), and ontology tracking component 608.

Chipman et al. does not specifically teach that the ontology tracking component includes transaction-tracking component.

Rangan teaches a method and system for user-interactive portals accessible via the Internet, wherein a facility is provided for automatically tracking transactions made at various destinations (column 8, lines 20-21).

The invention recognizes the increasing use of the Internet for fiscal transactions, such as purchasing goods and services, a facility is provided in a user's profile to automatically track transactions made at various destinations, and to authorize payment either on a transaction-by-transaction basis, or after a session, using access to the user's bank accounts, all of which may be pre-programmed and authorized by the user.

It would have been obvious to modify Chipman et al. to include transaction-tracking component, because it would advantageously allow to automate processing of the transactions for the users, as stated in Rangan (Col. 8 lines 19-23).

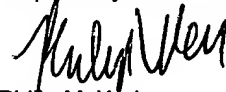
Chipman describes portal for providing information from suppliers. It does not relate to transactions. Therefore it would not be obvious to combine this reference with Rangan. Therefore, claim 6 is not obvious over Chipman in view of Rangan.

Applicant now believes that the application is in condition for allowance.

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